

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE GURNEE VILLAGE BOARD**

**GURNEE VILLAGE HALL
APRIL 19, 2021**

Call to Order

Mayor Kovarik called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Other Officials in Attendance

Patrick Muetz, Village Administrator; Bryan Winter, Village Attorney; Heather Galan, Acting Public Works Director/Village Engineer; Brian Gosnell, Finance Director; Brian Smith, Police Chief; Jeremey Gaughan, Police Commander; Ellen Dean, Economic Development Director; Jack Linehan, Assistant to the Administrator

Roll Call

PRESENT: 6-Thorstenson, Ross, Garner, O'Brien, Balmes, Hood
ABSENT: 0- None

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Kovarik led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Trustee Balmes, seconded by Trustee O'Brien to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Roll call,

AYE: 6- Thorstenson, Ross, Garner, O'Brien, Balmes, Hood
NAY: 0- None
ABSENT: 0- None
Motion Carried.

B. CONSENT AGENDA / OMNIBUS VOTE

The Village Administrator read the consent agenda for an omnibus vote as follows:

1. Approval of minutes from the April 12, 2021 meeting.
2. Approval of Ord. 2021 - 27 authorizing execution of a two-year contract with Eligo Energy LLC for the provision of 100% renewable electricity for the Village of Gurnee's Electrical Aggregation Program under a ComEd price-match program.
3. Approval of Payroll for period ending April 9, 2021 in the amount of \$814,628.90.
4. Approval of Bills for the period ending April 19, 2021 in the amount of \$177,904.94.

It was moved by Trustee Garner, seconded by Trustee Ross to approve the Consent Agenda for an omnibus vote as read.

Roll call,

AYE: 6- Thorstenson, Ross, Garner, O'Brien, Balmes, Hood
NAY: 0- None
ABSENT: 0- None
Motion Carried.

C. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

1. Presentation of Police Awards for the calendar year 2020.

Police Chief Smith presented the 2020 Police Awards to the following recipients:

- a. D.U.I. Enforcement Award:

Officer J.R. Nauseda 12th Time Recipient

- b. Alliance Against Intoxicated Motorists D.U.I. Award:

Officer Thomas Branick 10th DUI Pin
Officer Austin Demski 10th DUI Pin
Officer Daniel Moorehouse 10th DUI Pin
Officer Tim Hamann 50th DUI Pin

- c. Traffic Enforcement Award:

Officer Marcian Butur
Officer Austin Demski
Officer Antoine Smith

Representatives from Alliance Against Intoxicated Motorists (AAIM) spoke and thanked the officers for their dedication to keeping the motoring public safe.

2. Approval of Proclamation designating April 30, 2021 as "Arbor Day" in the Village of Gurnee.

It was moved by Trustee O'Brien, seconded by Trustee Thorstenson to approve of Proclamation designating April 30, 2021 as "Arbor Day" in the Village of Gurnee.

Voice Vote: ALL AYE: Motion Carried.

D. REPORTS

1. Presentation by Finance Director Brian Gosnell: COVID-19 Financial Update #14.

Director Gosnell presented a PowerPoint related to the COVID-19 Financial Update #14.

Director Gosnell noted the following in the COVID-19 Financial Update #14:

- Expected Duration
 - Restore Illinois - Phased Re-Opening
 - Currently Phase 4 Revitalization
 - Bridge Phase includes Vaccination and hospitalization metrics
 - Phase 5 (Fully Open) requires "vaccine or highly effective treatment widely available or the elimination of any new cases over a sustained period"
- Big Three Status
 - Six Flags
 - Opening April 24th
 - Gurnee Mills
 - Safety Protocols and Capacity Limits
 - Great Wolf Lodge
 - Safety Protocols and Capacity Limits
- General Fund Revenues
 - Gosnell noted thru March total General Fund revenues were \$8.1 million or 19.7% behind last year. The current projection is General Fund revenues will finish the year \$7.4 million behind last year.
 - Gosnell noted the Big Four (Sales Tax, Amusement Tax, Hotel Tax and Food & Beverage Tax) are projected to finish the year \$7.4 million or 30% behind last year.
 - Sales Tax -14%, -\$2.4m
 - Amusement Tax -81%, -\$3.0m
 - Hotel Tax -67%, -\$1.3m
 - Food & Beverage Tax -34%, -\$685k
 - Sales Tax is projected to finish the year at \$14.8 million, which is \$2.4 million or 14% behind last year.
 - Amusement Tax is projected to finish the year at \$695 thousand, which is \$3.0 million or 81% behind last year.
 - Hotel Tax is projected to finish the year at \$620 thousand, which is \$1.3 million or 67% behind last year.
 - Food & Beverage Tax is projected to finish the year at \$1.3 million, which is \$684 thousand or 34% behind last year.
- General Fund Expenditures through February are \$2.9 million or 7.7% behind the seasonally adjusted budget. Expenditures are projected to finish the year \$4.4 million or 10% behind the FY2020/2021 budget. Gosnell noted this savings only partially offsets the loss in revenues.
- The General Fund is expected to finish the year with a \$1.9 million deficit for FY2020/2021. Gosnell noted that the deficit combined with the FY2021/2022 budgeted deficit of \$922 thousand means the Village is projected to utilize \$3.0 Million in fund balance over a two-year period as a result of the pandemic.

Director Gosnell noted the following in the American Rescue Plan Act Update;

- American Rescue Plan Act -
 - Signed March 11, 2021
 - Includes \$65.1 Billion for Municipalities
 - Gurnee Estimate - \$3.75m
 - Eligible Costs through December 2024
 - Costs to respond to the public health emergency with respect to COVID-19...
 - Costs to respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID-19 public health emergency...
 - Costs to make necessary investments in water, sewer and broadband infrastructure...
 - Costs for the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue of a municipality due to the COVID-19 public health emergency relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year of the municipality...
 - Distributed Through State in Two Allotments
 - 60 Days After Enactment (May 2021)
 - 12 Months after 1st Distribution (Summer 2022)
- Gosnell noted the latest guidance released from the Treasury only addressed entities receiving funds directly from the Federal Government and did not pertain to the Village, but the amounts allocated to the Village did not change.

Trustee O'Brien asked what percentage of Amusement Tax is from season passes and what is the expected impact of the carryover or extension of Six Flags 2020 season passes to the 2021 season as it relates to Amusement Tax.

Director Gosnell noted Amusement Tax is the major revenue with the most unknowns due to how Six Flags extended the 2020 season passes into the 2021 operating season. Gosnell noted the possibility of promotions to boost pass sales and the revenue from season passes will likely be later in the season as the extension expires and patrons renew for the 2022 operating season.

E. OLD BUSINESS

None.

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Approval of Ord. 2021 – 28 approving a Redevelopment Agreement between the Village of Gurnee and Mall at Gurnee Mills, LLC. to renovate space formally occupied by the Sears department store.

Public Hearing Item.

Administrator Muetz provided a summary of the agreement stating this was the topic of the 6:30pm Public Hearing. The proposed agreement will assist with Hobby Lobby occupying a portion of the former Sears space at Gurnee Mills. Gurnee Mills will be investing approximately \$2.5 million in the space to prepare it for Hobby Lobby and has requested assistance from the Village. The Village's assistance will be 20% of the Mills investment, not to exceed \$500,000. Payments of \$100,000 will be made annually. The revenue from Hobby Lobby will offset this expense.

Gurnee Mills General Manager Randy Ebertowski stated the Mall weathered 2020 and is rebounding very well. He thanked the Village and the Mayor for its continued support. Mr. Ebertowski stated leasing activity is going well and there is a lot of new construction and activity at the Mall.

It was moved by Trustee Ross, seconded by Trustee O'Brien to approve of Ord. 2021 – 28 approving a Redevelopment Agreement between the Village of Gurnee and Mall at Gurnee Mills, LLC. to renovate space formally occupied by the Sears department store.

Roll call,

AYE: 6- Thorstenson, Ross, Garner, O'Brien, Balmes, Hood

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 0- None

Motion Carried.

2. Approval of Ord. 2021 – 29 renewing a Cable Television Franchise to Comcast of Illinois XII, LLC.

Public Hearing Item.

It was moved by Trustee Balmes, seconded by Trustee Garner to approve of Ord. 2021 – 29 renewing a Cable Television Franchise to Comcast of Illinois XII, LLC.

Roll call,

AYE: 6- Thorstenson, Ross, Garner, O'Brien, Balmes, Hood

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 0- None

Motion Carried.

3. Approval of Ord. 2021 – 30 adding one Class 2 Liquor License by amending Section 6-56 of Article II of Chapter 6 of the Gurnee Municipal Code entitled "Alcoholic Beverages." (Cracker Barrel Old Country Store – 5706 Northridge Drive).

Administrator Muetz said the Cracker Barrel has applied for a Class 2 liquor license which allows the sale of alcoholic liquor for consumption on premises where sold and the retail sale of alcoholic liquor in the original package not for consumption on the premises. The Village currently has three Class 2 licenses issued.

Administrator Muetz stated in September 2020 it was reported that for the first time 51 years, the family-friendly chain will be serving beer, wine and orange & strawberry mimosas at 600 of its 660 stores in the U.S. by July 2021. The Police Department has conducted all the necessary background checks and finds nothing to preclude issuing the license.

It was moved by Trustee Garner, seconded by Trustee O'Brien to approve of Ord. 2021 – 30 adding one Class 2 Liquor License by amending Section 6-56 of Article II of Chapter 6 of the Gurnee Municipal Code entitled "Alcoholic Beverages." (Cracker Barrel Old Country Store – 5706 Northridge Drive).

Roll call,

AYE: 6- Thorstenson, Ross, Garner, O'Brien, Balmes, Hood

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 0- None

Motion Carried.

4. Approval of Res. 2021 – 05 authorizing the Village to continue participation in the Lake County Regional 911 consortium to secure pricing for public safety software systems.

Administrator Muetz said over the past two years, the Village, partnering with Lake County and 21 municipal and dispatch agencies, has played a lead role in evaluating the potential advantages of merging 911 centers and standardizing technology. Following two years of data gathering, member input and software evaluation the Committee has selected a vendor and is now entering contract negotiations for the procurement of public safety software. He continued to state the Village of Gurnee's CAD is nearing end of life and the opportunity to move to a shared platform with other communities in the County comes at the perfect time. As the County enters contract negotiations, it is looking for a level of commitment from partners that can be used to show economies of scale and obtain better pricing. County staff has indicated a letter of intent or non-binding resolution stating a desire to continue in the process would be sufficient. The County provided draft language, which was modified by staff and Attorney Winter. The resolution does not commit the Village to purchase software or expend funds. Rather, it shows support to continue forward in the process and allow the Village to participate.

It was moved by Trustee Balmes, seconded by Trustee Ross to approve of Res. 2021 – 05 authorizing the Village to continue participation in the Lake County Regional 911 consortium to secure pricing for public safety software systems.

Roll call,

AYE: 6- Thorstenson, Ross, Garner, O'Brien, Balmes, Hood

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 0- None

Motion Carried.

5. Approval of Res. 2021 – 06 endorsing the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus' Greenest Region Compact 2.

Administrator Muetz said that in February 2008 the Village passed a resolution endorsing the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus' Greenest Region Compact (GRC). In March 2016, the original pledge was updated and is now referred to as GRC2 (Greenest Region Compact 2). To date, 135 communities have adopted the GRC to improve quality of life for more than 6 million residents making it the largest regional sustainability collaborative for municipalities in the country. In addition, Lake, Kane and McHenry counties have adopted the goals. The GRC's high-level goals are tailored for municipalities and fall into ten sustainability categories. The Village of Gurnee Environmental Sustainability Committee has forwarded a 3-0 recommendation that the Village Board support a resolution of endorsement for the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus' "Greenest Region Compact 2". The Environmental Sustainability Committee intends to use the framework and free staff expertise provided by the Caucus when developing committee goals and measurable objectives and this resolution is the first step towards reestablishing that relationship.

Trustee Hood said it was fortuitous the Village came across the updated GRC goals. He said the resources are very encouraging with a lot of ideas and resources that can benefit the Village.

It was moved by Trustee Ross, seconded by Trustee Thorstenson to approve of Res. 2021 – 06 endorsing the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus' Greenest Region Compact 2.

Roll call,

AYE: 6- Thorstenson, Ross, Garner, O'Brien, Balmes, Hood

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 0- None

Motion Carried.

6. Approval of the Public Works Utility Division request to purchase 3000 LTE Orion endpoints from Midwest Meter at a cost of \$337,500.00.

Acting Director Galan stated in July of 2019 the Board approved BEACON Advance Metering Analytics and staff's request to move forward with Phase 1 of the meter program to update meter software and integrate it with Village financial software since the Village's current meter program was no longer going to be supported. Today staff is ready to move to Phase 2, which includes the change out of the Orion endpoint. Orions transmit water meter data and are mounted to the exterior of buildings and connected to the meter with a wire. Acting Director Galan stated over the past year, Public Works has worked with Information Systems and Finance to select the most appropriate Orion endpoint for our current and future needs. She continued to state the options were fixed networks utilizing antennas and radios or an LTE cellular network. Both options would offer more frequent transmission of data, however there were additional benefits of the cellular Orions that staff believes were worth the investment including:

- No additional start-up cost or infrastructure to utilize the cell endpoints
- More resilient network (first network backup and running after a severe storms)
- Provides flexibility for the future to utilize additional smart technology
- Real-time data will be helpful for the future of water system operations.
- Power for residents manage their own water usage 24/7
- Ability to set alerts - Text or emails for high consumption or any consumption if out of town

- Free access to residents about their water usage through the Eye on Water app

Director Galan stated as is the case with most cloud-based solutions there is a hosting fee, which is currently less than \$1 per month per account. The Village's vendor has offered to pay hosting fees until halfway through Year 3 of this change out program. She continued to state the 10-year program cost for fixed network Orions is estimated at \$1,740,000 while the cellular network Orion option is estimated at \$1,850,000. The new Orion endpoints will have longer service life warranted 10 full years with the following 10 years prorated. The change to these new endpoints will reduce staff time to address resident concerns and will provide a higher level of customer service.

She continued to state that meter data is critical to the Village since it purchase water from CLCJAWA and needs to have an accurate accounting of all water use. Director Galan then reviewed the pilot project in 2020 noting 53 LTE/Cell Orions throughout the Village with different types of customers in different areas around the Village. Going forward the Public Works Department has planned change outs to take place between May and October targeting about 500 Orions per month which will be handled with 2 field staff and the PW administrative staff time to input into the system.

Acting Director Galan concluded by stating the consideration before the Board is approval of the first year's purchase of 3,000 Orion endpoints to continue with phase 2 of the overall project. This request only includes the purchase for Year 1 of the Orion change outs and staff will return next year for the 2nd year of the program.

Trustee O'Brien asked if the upcoming hosting fees could be incorporated into future water rates.

Administrator Muetz said towards the end of the fiscal year staff will be discussing future water rates with the Village Board. He stated having more timely water usage information will help improve customer service, adding the current endpoints are reaching end of life and the Village has already been dealing with units that are no longer transmitting information.

Trustee Thorstenson asked if the request was 3000 because resources are limited

Acting Director Galan said yes. Based on available staff time during non-snow season, 3000 is what staff can install annually.

It was moved by Trustee Garner, seconded by Trustee Thorstenson to approve of the Public Works Utility Division request to purchase 3000 LTE Orion endpoints from Midwest Meter at a cost of \$337,500.00.

Roll call,

AYE: 6- Thorstenson, Ross, Garner, O'Brien, Balmes, Hood

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 0- None

Motion Carried.

7. Approval of Engineering Division's recommendation to award the 2021 Street Maintenance Resurfacing Program to the low bidder, Payne & Dolan, Inc., at a cost of \$1,674,908.75.

Administrator Muetz said the 2021 Street Resurfacing Program consists of 2.3 miles of street resurfacing/rehabilitation and pavement patching. Roadways to be resurfaced include Kilbourne Avenue, Vista Drive, Revere Court, Middle Road, and reconstruction of a portion of Manchester Drive, as well as patching in numerous locations throughout the Village. The PCI breakdown (2019 assessment) for the 2021 program includes 0% rated as "Failed", 63% rated as "Poor", 16% rated "Marginal" and 20% rated as "Fair." As these as 2019 ratings, the roads have only deteriorated further since then. On April 5, 2021, the Village opened 3 bids related to the program. The bids ranged from \$1.67 million to \$1.87 million. Payne & Dolan was the low bidder at \$1.67 million. The Engineer's estimate for the program was \$2.0 million. Payne & Dolan is a reputable company who had the 2019, 2017, 2015 2014 and 2011 roadway

contracts.

It was moved by Trustee Garner, seconded by Trustee Ross to approve of Engineering Division's recommendation to award the 2021 Street Maintenance Resurfacing Program to the low bidder, Payne & Dolan, Inc., at a cost of \$1,674,908.75.

Roll call,

AYE: 6- Thorstenson, Ross, Garner, O'Brien, Balmes, Hood

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 0- None

Motion Carried.

8. Approval of Engineering Division's recommendation to award the 2021 Waveland Avenue Water Main and Culvert Replacement Project to the low bidder, Campanella & Sons, Inc., at a cost of \$313,734.38.

Administrator Muetz said included in the FY 21/22 Approved Budget is the replacement of water main along Waveland Avenue between University and Woodlawn. This section of water main is from the 1960s and has a significant break history. In addition, storm sewer improvements and the replacement of two existing culvert under Waveland will also be included in the project. On April 12, 2021, the Village opened 6 bids related to the project. The bids ranged from \$313 thousand to \$393 thousand. Campanella & Sons was the low bidder. The Engineer's estimate for the program was \$355 thousand. The Village has a longstanding working relationship with Campanella and has been satisfied with the final work product. As such, staff is recommending the project be awarded to the low bidder, Campanella & Sons, Inc., at a cost of \$313,734.38.

It was moved by Trustee Balmes, seconded by Trustee Garner to approve of Engineering Division's recommendation to award the 2021 Waveland Avenue Water Main and Culvert Replacement Project to the low bidder, Campanella & Sons, Inc., at a cost of \$313,734.38.

Roll call,

AYE: 6- Thorstenson, Ross, Garner, O'Brien, Balmes, Hood

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 0- None

Motion Carried.

G. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

Closing Comments

None.

Adjournment

It was moved by Trustee Balmes, seconded by Trustee Thorstenson to adjourn the meeting.

Voice Vote: ALL AYE: Motion Carried.

Mayor Kovarik adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

**Andrew Harris,
Village Clerk**